IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of monitoring and controlling power consumption comprising:

[reading power consumption data using an automatic reader] connecting a current transducer and a voltage wire to an automatic reader to measure power consumption;

collecting data from [the] one or more readers into a [computer memory] data collection unit;

transferring the data from one or more readers to a computer system;

creating a target amount of power consumption for a predetermined period of time wherein the target amount may be any of a group including amperage, amperage hours, kilovolts, kilovolt hours, watts, watt hours and currency;

creating a forecast of electric power consumption for [a] the predetermined period of time using [a] the computer system, [wherein the computer system is used in the creation of a forecast based on usage for a portion of the predetermined period of time; and controlling an amount of power consumption by controlling a device that consumes power based on the forecast.] wherein the computer system is used in the controlling one or more devices based on the forecast so that usage for the predetermined period of time falls below the target amount.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said controlling is done manually by hand.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said controlling is done manually using the computer system.

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said controlling is done automatically through the computer system.

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said predetermined period of time is instantaneous.

6. (Currently Amended) The method, according to claim 1, wherein said predetermined period of time is [any] a chronological period of time.

7. (Currently Amended) The method, according to claim 1, wherein said predetermined period of time [may by any] is a non-chronological period of time.

8. (Currently Amended) A system for monitoring and controlling power consumption comprising:

a current transformer and a voltage wire connected to a reader wherein the reader calculates [for obtaining] power consumption data for a power circuit; and,

a data collection unit to obtain the data from one or more readers and,

a target amount for power consumption for a predetermined period of time for the power circuit wherein the target amount may be any of a group including amperage, amperage hours, kilovolts, kilovolt hours, watts, watt hours and currency; and,

a computer system for collecting the data from the [reader] one or more data collection units wherein the computer system is used in the creation of a forecast of electric power consumption [for a predetermined period of time based on usage for a portion of the predetermined period of time] and wherein a device that consumes power is controlled based on the forecast to allow power consumption for the circuit to end the predetermined period of time below the target amount.

9. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 8, wherein said controlling is done manually using a computer.

10. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 8, wherein said controlling is done automatically through a computer.

11. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 8, wherein said predetermined period of time is instantaneous.

12. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 8, wherein said predetermined period

of time is [any] a chronological period of time.

13. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 8, wherein said predetermined period of time [may by any] is a non-chronological period of time.

14. (Cancelled) The system according to claim 8, wherein the computer system controls the device so that usage for the predetermined time period falls below a predetermined amount.

15. (Cancelled) The system according to claim 14, wherein the predetermined amount represents a target and when usage falls below the target for the predetermined time period the user becomes entitled to a rebate.

16. The method according to claim 1, wherein the data obtained from the automatic reader is power consumption data for one or more circuits measured in amperage.

17. The method according to claim 1, wherein the data obtained from the automatic reader is power consumption data for one or more circuits measured in wattage.

18. The method according to claim 1, wherein the data obtained from the automatic reader is power consumption data for one or more circuits measured in kilowatt-hours.

19. The method according to claim 1, wherein the data is transferred from the reader to the computer memory device via wireless communications.

20. The method according to claim 1 wherein the data is transferred from the reader to the computer memory device via wired communications.

21. The method according to claim 1, wherein the data is transferred from the reader to the computer system via wireless communications.

22. The method according to claim 1, wherein the data is transferred from the reader to the

computer system via wired communication.

23. The method according to claim 1, wherein the predetermined period of time is two or more instantaneous time periods.

24. The system according to claim 8, wherein the data obtained from the automatic reader is power consumption data for one or more circuits measured in amperage.

25. The system according to claim 8 wherein the data obtained from the automatic reader is power consumption for one or more circuits measured in wattage.

26. The system according to claim 8, wherein the data obtained from the automatic reader is power consumption data for one or more circuits measured in kilowatt-hours.

27. The system according to claim 8, wherein the data is transferred from the reader to the computer memory device via wireless communications.

28. The system according to claim 8, wherein the data is transferred from the reader to the computer memory device via wired communications.

29. The system according to claim 8, wherein the data is transferred from the reader to the computer system via wireless communications.

30. The system according to claim 8, wherein the data is transferred from the reader to the computer system via wired communication.

31. The system according to claim 8, wherein the controlling is done manually by hand.

32. The system according to claim 8, wherein the predetermined period of time is two or more instantaneous time periods.

33. The method according to claim 1, wherein the computer system is used to control a security system.

34. The method according to claim 1, wherein the computer system is used to control a fire alarm system.

35. The system according to claim 8, wherein the computer system controls a security system.

36. The system according to claim 8, wherein the computer system controls a fire alarm system.

37. The system according to claim 8, is responsive to a remote user interface, and operative to control a security system.

38. (Cancelled) The method according to claim 1, wherein the computer system is used to control the device so that usage for the predetermined time period falls below a predetermined amount.

39. (Cancelled) The method according to claim 1, wherein the predetermined amount represents a target and when usage falls below the target for the predetermined time period the user becomes entitled to a rebate.

40. (New) The method according to claim 1 wherein the computer system employs the use of a Microsoft Excel Spreadsheet.

41. (New) The system according to claim 8, wherein the computer system employs the use of a Microsoft Excel Spreadsheet